MARVEL 3

ZUB · DIAZ · OLAZABA · TARTAGLIA

THUNDERBOLTS®

THUNDERBOLTS

"MONKEY BUSINESS"

WHILE SERVING AS MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY, WILSON FISK, THE FORMER KINGPIN OF CRIME, SANCTIONED THE THUNDERBOLTS, A GROUP OF SUPER VILLAINS DEPUTIZED TO CARRY OUT HIS WILL. NOW THAT LUKE CAGE IS MAYOR, HE'S LOOKING TO REDEEM THAT NAME WITH HIS OWN HANDPICKED TEAM, LED BY HAWKEYE. BUT WITH THE NEW THUNDERBOLTS NOT EXACTLY HAVING THE BEST SUCCESS RATE SO FAR, IT MIGHT BE TIME FOR A MORE SEASONED LEADER TO TAKE CHARGE...SUCH AS FORMER AVENGERS LEADER AND ALL-AROUND BAD☠☠☠ MONICA RAMBEAU!

JIM ZUB
WRITER

NETHO DIAZ
GUEST PENCILER

VICTOR OLAZABA
GUEST INKER

JAVA TARTAGLIA
COLORIST

VC's ARIANA MAHER & CORY PETIT
LETTERERS

SEAN IZAAKSE & NOLAN WOODARD
COVER ARTISTS

STEFANO CASELLI & FEDERICO BLEE
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

ANTHONY GAMBINO
PRODUCTION DESIGNER
MARTIN BIRO & MICHELLE MARCHESE
ASSISTANT EDITORS
ANNALISE BISSA
ASSOCIATE EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT & WIL MOSS
EDITORS
C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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KADESH BASE, PACIFIC OCEAN.

YOU'RE GOING TO BE *LATE*, MONICA.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE BLUE MARVEL.

GIMME A MINUTE, ADAM. I SLEPT LIKE *CRAP*.

ARE YOU SAYING I SHOULD HAVE MADE SURE YOU WERE *EXHAUSTED* BEFORE WE FELL ASLEEP?

HA.

YOU'RE STILL ADJUSTING TO HAVING A *HUMAN BODY* AGAIN. IT'S GOOD TO KNOW YOU HAVE *LIMITS*...

...AND ALSO ENJOYABLE TO *TEST* THOSE LIMITS AT TIMES.

IN ANY CASE, I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU TOOK THAT *JOB* IN NEW YORK AT ALL.

BECAUSE LUKE CAGE *ASKED* ME.

AND I TURNED HIM *DOWN*.

AND THEN I FELT *GUILTY*.

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BECAUSE YOU'RE THE MOST *CONSCIENTIOUS* PERSON I KNOW.

YOU'RE VERY SWEET.

DON'T TELL ANYONE.

IT'LL BE OUR *SECRET.*

SAY HI TO *AMERICA* FOR ME. HOPE SHE'S DOING OKAY AFTER THE ADVENTURE WE JUST HAD-- THINGS GOT A LITTLE... *CATACLYSMIC* THERE AT THE END.*

AND TELL HAWKEYE TO *STRAIGHTEN UP.*

*SEE THE CURRENT *DEFENDERS: BEYOND* MINISERIES. --WIL

WILL DO.

I'M TAKING THE VEST *AGAIN.*

ISN'T WEARING YOUR BOYFRIEND'S CLOTHES A BIT *ON THE NOSE?*

WHAT I THINK IS...I DON'T CARE WHAT ANYONE ELSE THINKS.

GODSPEED, THEN.

NOT QUITE...

...MORE LIKE "LIGHTSPEED."

GREAT HILL, CENTRAL PARK.

SPECTRUM'S FINALLY HERE, SO LET'S GO!

WHAT IS THIS, CLINT?

I KNOW IT FEELS A BIT ***WEIRD*** CONSIDERING WE'VE ALREADY GONE OUT ON ***TWO MISSIONS*** AS A TEAM, BUT THOSE ALSO DIDN'T RUN AS ***SMOOTHLY*** AS I'D LIKE, SO THINK OF THIS AS A BIT OF A ***RESET...***

...AND A ***TEAM TRAINING SESSION.***

THIS WASN'T ON THE ITINERARY.

I KNOW. ***SPONTANEITY*** IS GOOD. KEEPS EVERYONE ON THEIR ***TOES.***

OKAY...

VICTOR, ARE YOU ***READING?*** I'M KINDA DOING THE ***LEADER*** THING HERE.

I WASN'T ***IGNORING*** YOU, BOSS.

MY COMBAT ABILITIES ARE BUILT ON ***CHI POWER***--SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL ENERGY--SO I GET A ***QUICK BOOST*** BY READIN' SOME ***LOCAL HISTORY.***

HE'S NOT GONNA MAKE US RUN ***LAPS,*** IS HE?

IF HE ***WANTS*** LAPS, THEN WE DO LAPS.

BUILDING ***UNIT COHESION*** IS IMPORTANT.

DON'T WORRY, AMERICA.

WE'RE NOT DOING ***LAPS...***

THUNDERBOLTS

MONKEY BUSINESS

...JUST A HIGH-SPIRITED GAME OF *THINK FAST!*

FOOOM

THE RULES ARE *SIMPLE*--TAG *ME* BEFORE I TAG *YOU!*

KRESH

YOU'RE *OUT*, GUTSEN!

%$&!

I'LL JUST WAIT *UP HERE* TILL THE GAME'S *DONE*, THANKS.

ALL THAT DOES IS MAKE YOU AN *EASY TARGET*, MS. CHAVEZ.

PAFF

NNG!

YOU'RE *OUT!*

BWIP

OLD MAN ARCHER PULLIN' OFF A *SNEAK ATTACK!*

I LIKE THE *STYLE,* BUT YOU'RE *NOT* GETTIN' ME LIKE--

--THAT?

YOU'RE *OUT.*

GOTTA LOVE THAT *BOOMERANG ARROW,* AM I RIGHT?

YOU DON'T *SERIOUSLY* THINK YOU'RE GONNA *TAG ME,* DO YOU?

I *ALREADY DID,* THE SECOND YOU TOUCHED DOWN.

YOU *SNEAKY* LITTLE ...

BEATING YOU IN A *FAIR FIGHT* IS PRETTY MUCH *IMPOSSIBLE,* SPECTRUM, BUT OUR ENEMIES WON'T PLAY FAIR, SO I DIDN'T EITHER.

PLANTED ARROWHEAD

I KNOW YOU MIGHT THINK I'M JUST A ***BONEHEAD WITH A BOW,*** BUT I'VE BEEN DOING THIS ***SUPER HERO THING*** LONGER THAN ***ANY*** OF YOU.

WE'VE ALL BEEN RECRUITED FOR THE THUNDERBOLTS, BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE US A ***TEAM.***

NOT YET.

TRAINING TOGETHER HAS TO BE A PRIORITY OR ELSE WE'LL MAKE ***MISTAKES.***

MISTAKES THAT MAKE US ***LOOK BAD...***

...OR ONES THAT COST PEOPLE THEIR ***LIVES.***

YOU KNOW ***ALL*** ABOUT ***THOSE*** KINDS OF MISTAKES, DON'T YOU, BARTON?

DON'T GO THERE.

GET BACK ON TARGET.

GREAT LITTLE SPEECH, CLINT. VERY MOTIVATING.

SORRY WE'RE LATE. THE ***PERFUME PHOTO SHOOT*** TOOK LONGER THAN SCHEDULED.

IF IT HAD GONE ON ANY LONGER, EEGRO WOULD HAVE BEEN FORCED TO UNLEASH HIS ***ULTIMATE ATTACK.***

WHAT THE HELL IS HE ***WEARING?***

WHAT THE HELL ARE ***YOU*** WEARING?

C'MON, HELEN, IT'S A ***CLASSIC!***

THE THUNDERBOLTS ARE THE ***SANCTIONED TEAM*** OF NEW YORK CITY. THE PUBLIC NEEDS TO ***SEE*** ALL YOUR FACES, FREE AND CLEAR.

NO MASKS, CLINT.

-SIGH-

POWER MAN HAS GOT AN INTERVIEW WITH *IRON MEN* FITNESS MAGAZINE AT NOON.

YOU'RE BOOKED FOR A *PODCAST* WITH J. JONAH JAMESON TOMORROW AT 12:30.

I DIDN'T AGREE TO THAT.

IT *WASN'T* A REQUEST.

WAIT A SEC. CALL COMING IN...

THUNDERBOLTS COMMAND HERE. *HELEN ASTRANTIA* SPEAKING.

OKAY...

CENTRAL PARK? *SERIOUSLY?*

UH, YEAH. WE'LL BE THERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.

AMERICA, WE'RE ON THE CLOCK. POP OPEN A PORTAL TO *5TH AVENUE AND EAST 64TH.*

DOWN THE STREET?

YUP. SOUTH END OF THE PARK, BUT LET'S ARRIVE WITH A BIT OF *FLAIR.*

WHAT'S OUR *SITREP?*

POLICE ARE AT THE *CENTRAL PARK ZOO.* IT'S APPARENTLY BEEN TAKEN OVER...

...BY THE SUPER-APES.

INTELLIGENT MONKEYS, IF YOU DO NOT SURRENDER THESE PREMISES IN THE NEXT THREE MINUTES, WE WILL USE FORCE!

<SUCK EGGS, CAPITALIST PIG!>*

*--TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN.

I'M HAWKEYE. THIS IS SPECTRUM. WE'RE WITH THE THUNDERBOLTS.

LIEUTENANT BECKSTED.

I APPRECIATE THE BACKUP, BUT IT'S NOT REQUIRED. WE'RE JUST GONNA FIRE TEAR GAS IN THERE AND CLEAN 'EM OUT.

THAT'S ACTUALLY A PRETTY GOOD STRATEGY. THOSE APES ARE SUPER-POWERED, BUT GAS SHOULD STILL SLOW THEM DOWN, AND THEN WE CAN ROUND 'EM UP.

YOU WANT TO BE BACKUP FOR THE COPS?

TECHNICALLY, WE'RE ALSO COPS.

YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!

WITH ALL DUE RESPE--

THIS IS A SUPER VILLAIN PROBLEM, LIEUTENANT. MY THUNDERBOLTS HAVE JURISDICTION HERE.

OKAY, PAL. FILL YOUR BOOTS.

<NO LONGER SHALL THE *FORCES OF NATURE* BOW DOWN TO YOUR WHIMS, PETTY HUMANS!>

<ONCE, WE WERE *SLAVES* TO THE *RED GHOST* AND HIS *MACHINATIONS,* BUT NOW WE ARE *FREE* AND SO TOO SHALL BE ALL ANIMALS!>

<*EVERY* ZOO SHALL BECOME *APE TERRITORY,* AND FROM THERE, *REVOLUTION!*>

MY *RUSSIAN* IS RUSTY, BUT, IN SHORT, THEY *REALLY* HATE *HUMANS.*

FAIR ENOUGH. WE *DO* KIND OF *SUCK.*

CAN YOU *PARLEY* WITH THEM? MAYBE WE CAN KEEP THIS FROM TURNING INTO A *FIGHT.*

<MY NAME IS KARA. WE COME IN *PEACE.*>

<I AM *IGOR,* AND I'M HERE FOR *WAR.*>

<YOU'RE A *SHAPE-CHANGER?*>

<I AM WHATEVER I WANT TO BE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN *THIS* CASE, I AM...>

<...A *DISTRACTION!*>

OOOOOHMMM

THAT ORANGUTAN IS A $%@& MAGNET?!

NNNNNG--!

<WELL DONE, BROTHER PEOTOR! USE THEIR OWN METAL AGAINST THEM!>

WHAM

UHH--!

HE'S GOT MY TRICK ARROWS!

THOOM

DON'T SWEAT IT, YOUR HAWKNESS. I GOT THIS.

WEAPON SYSTEMS COMPROMISED!

LOOK OUT!

BOOM

THESE HIRSUTE CREATURES HAVE MADE A GRAVE MISTAKE.

EEGRO LIKED THAT OUTFIT.

DIE!!!

NO TRANSLATION NEEDED FOR *THAT.*

KRAKOOM

MY TURN.

OH, COME! *ON!*

NOT *NOW!*

UNNGH--!

KRAKOOM

YOU WANNA DO THIS THE *HARD WAY?*

FINE.

<YES!>

<BRING ALL YOUR *TASTY ENERGY* TO *YAROSLAV!*>

KWAAS

UHHH--

<I'LL MAKE *GOOD* USE OF IT.>

FLESH-BORNE LEADER, THESE PITIFUL CREATURES ARE *VEXING!*

"VEXING"?!

THEY'RE *KICKING* OUR *ASS!*

SHALL EEGRO UNLEASH HIS *ULTIMATE ATTACK?*

YES!

NO!

PLEASE PICK *ONE ANSWER.*

IF *"YES,"* MANY FLESH-BORNE SHALL DIE, BUT OUR ENEMIES WILL ALSO BE *ANNIHILATED!*

IN THAT CASE, BY *"YES,"* I DEFINITELY MEANT *"NO"!*

EEGRO, *NO ULTIMATE ATTACK!*

OKAY, APE-STYLES!

YOU CAUGHT AMERICA CHAVEZ OFF GUARD, BUT NOW YA BOI POWER MAN IS HERE TO--

SHOOM SHOOM SHOOM

--shine?

FOOLISH FLESH-BORNE, BREATHING IS A WEAKNESS!

:COUGH: :HACK:

SLEEP NOW.

BAM

N'UHHH--

NYPD! NOBODY MOVE, MAN OR MONKEY!

GREAT :COUGH: WORK, CLINT.

A :CHOKE: PLUS.

:SPUTTER: :COUGH: :RETCH:

BA-ARF

SWAT

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ON THE *BRIGHT SIDE*, PEOPLE STILL LOVE EEGRO, SO WE'RE NEGOTIATING A BUNCH OF *LICENSING DEALS.*

DAILY BUGLE

AN APE-SOLUTE EMBARRASSMENT

...READ MORE.

THUNDERBOLTS BLUNDERS BLOAT THE BUDGET

BY THAISSA DIAZ.

DID HAWKEYE ROB A BANK?

BY: JIMMY ZUP

ANIMAL CRUELTY: DO APES HAVE RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW?

T-SHIRTS. ACTION FIGURES. PLUSHIES.

IT COULD BE QUITE *LUCRATIVE*, MAYOR CAGE.

EEGRO SIGNED OVER ALL *LIKENESS RIGHTS* TO THUNDERBOLTS INC. AS LONG AS WE ENSURED HE DIDN'T HAVE TO GO BACK TO *MONSTER ISLAND.*

IS IT ENOUGH TO OFFSET ALL THESE *DAMAGES?*

NOT SURE. I'LL LET YOU KNOW ONCE THE CONTRACTS GET *FINALIZED.*

REMIND ME *WHY* I WANTED TO DO THIS AGAIN?

REDEEMING THE *THUNDERBOLTS.*

YEAH. THAT AIN'T GOIN' WELL.

TO BE FAIR, I THOUGHT *JANET VAN DYNE* WAS THE RIGHT ONE TO HEAD THIS PROJECT UP.

WHERE'S *BARTON?*

HE'S *DEBRIEFING* THE TEAM.

WHERE THE HELL IS *EVERYONE?*

I TOLD THE OTHERS TO TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF.

GUTS REFUSED TO LEAVE.

SHE'S NOT MY *COMMANDING OFFICER.*

HE'S RIGHT. YOU DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO *GIVE ORDERS.*

SOMEONE HAS TO, AND IT'S CERTAINLY NOT *YOU.*

YOU THINK THIS IS *EASY?*

NO, IT'S *NOT,* WHICH IS WHY YOU HAVE TO BE ON TOP OF *EVERYTHING.*

LEADERSHIP IS MORE THAN BEING A PRETTY FACE AND PLAYING A FLASHY GAME OF *TAG!*

I KNOW!

DO YOU?!

YES! I LED THE *WEST COAST AVENGERS!* I LED THE *THUNDERBOLTS!*

OH YEAH? WHAT ABOUT YOU AND *NEXTWAVE?!*

AND THEY *BOTH FELL APART.*

DON'T *DEFLECT* [redacted]! THIS IS ABOUT *YOU,* CLINT!

YOUR POOR JUDGMENT!

YOUR SELFISHNESS!

YOUR IMMATURITY!

PERMISSION TO SPEAK FREELY, SIR?

SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT, GUTS. IN CASE IT WASN'T ALREADY *OBVIOUS*, THIS *ISN'T* A MILITARY OUTFIT.

HONESTLY?

YOU BOTH SUCK.

SPECTRUM IS CORRECT THAT YOU HAVEN'T PROPERLY *TAKEN CHARGE.*

THIS TEAM NEEDS *STRUCTURE* AND *DISCIPLINE* IN ORDER TO FUNCTION WITHIN THIS SYSTEM, AND YOU HAVEN'T DELIVERED ON *EITHER* OF THOSE NEEDS.

THAT SAID, YOU ALSO NEED TO *BACK HAWKEYE UP.*

YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO LEAD A DISPARATE UNIT, AND YOU'RE NOT MAKING THAT ANY EASIER WHEN YOU *WAIT FOR HIM TO FAIL* INSTEAD OF *HELPING* TO MAKE THINGS *BETTER.*

WHEN I TOOK THIS JOB, I WAS TOLD I'D BE WORKING WITH *PROS* AND I COULD FINISH MY TOUR OF DUTY WITH SOME *DIGNITY.*

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES AND ALL THAT &%$#.

BOTH OF YOU ARE TREATING THIS LIKE A *TEMP GIG* INSTEAD OF SOMETHING *REAL.*

GET YOUR HEAD *INTO* IT OR GET THE #$&@ *OUT.*

I FIGURED YOU'D *FLY* HOME INSTEAD OF TAKIN' THE *SUBWAY.*

I'M KINDA TIRED, AND BESIDES, *STREET LEVEL* IS A NICE CHANGE OF PACE.

BEING *WITH* THE PEOPLE INSTEAD OF *ABOVE* THEM CAN BE GOOD FOR THE *SOUL,* YOU KNOW?

YEAH, THAT'S *COOL.*

THAT *ZOO THING* WAS PRETTY *CRAZY,* EH? I'D NEVER FOUGHT *MAD MONKEYS* BEFORE.

NICE.

I TOOK ON A TRIO OF *COSMIC MEGA-APES* BACK IN THE DAY.

I'M SURE YOU COULD'VE HANDLED THAT *BIG GORILLA GUY* ON YOUR OWN, SO I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME *STEPPING IN...*

...AT LEAST UNTIL THE *TEAR GAS.*

I WASN'T TRYIN' TO STEAL YOUR *THUNDER* OR ANYTHIN', I JUST--

A-AMERICA?!

FWHUMP

I DIDN'T ACTUALLY THINK YOU'D PICK UP.
THEN WHY'D YOU CALL?
I DON'T KNOW.
YEAH, YOU DO.
YOU NEED GOOD ADVICE, AND I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO ALWAYS GIVES IT TO YOU, WHETHER YOU WANT IT OR NOT.
HEH. TRUE.
ANYWAY, I'M IN NEW YORK TRYING TO RUN A NEW TEAM.
I'VE SEEN THE HEADLINES.
SHOULD I BE FLATTERED THAT YOU NOTICED?
THEY'VE BEEN KIND OF HARD TO MISS.
-SIGH-
IT'S NOT GOING WELL... I...
...I WANT TO RUN AWAY.
SO WHY DON'T YOU? YOU'RE GOOD AT THAT.
BECAUSE I PROMISED MYSELF I WASN'T GOING TO DO THAT ANYMORE.
I WASN'T GOING TO LISTEN TO THAT VOICE INSIDE THAT TELLS ME I'M WORTHLESS AND I'LL NEVER WIN.
THERE ARE MANY TIMES I WOULD HAVE AGREED WITH THAT VOICE.
WOW--
BUT THAT WOULD'VE JUST BEEN ME LASHING OUT BECAUSE YOU HURT ME SO MUCH.
I KNOW, AND I'M SORRY.
I...
...I NEED YOU, BIRDIE...
...I CAN'T DO THIS ALONE.
BOBBY MORSE
NEXT: THINGS START GOING WELL! (BE WORRIED.)

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NEXT

The THUNDERBOLTS were hired to defend New York City from threats of **ANY** size. Even the big ones. *Especially* the big ones. Time to go to work...or so it seems.

Email us at **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** and mark your messages **"okay to print"** for a chance to see them answered in future issues!

ZONE